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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

USA Patent Application

Heinz-Günther Wilhelm

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Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Respectfully submitted herewith is a copy of a German Patent Office Search Report (3 pages) from the parallel German application 100 10 812.1 of which the present application claims priority, together with copies of its 5 cited references.

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In the German Patent Office Search Report the references listed in category X mean that each of these references alone places the inventive level in question with respect to the listed claims. The references listed in category Y mean these documents are of particular relevance with respect to the listed claims; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

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